



**Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Investigative Report**



2024-1513

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 6382 Georges Creek Drive, Columbus, OH 43110 (L)

Investigative Activity: Officer Involved Critical Incident
Involves: Rafael Warfield
Activity Date: 05/16/2024
Activity Location: 6382 Georges Creek Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43110
Authoring Agent: Special Agent Sarah Taylor

Narrative:

On May 16, 2024, at approximately 0525 hours, the Columbus Police Department (CPD) requested assistance from the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) reference an officer involved critical incident (OICI). Agents were informed that a male subject, Rafael Warfield (Warfield), was threatening himself and other people inside of an apartment with a firearm at the listed address. CPD officers responded to the scene where they observed Warfield near the back door of the residence. While on scene, Warfield allegedly discharged a firearm. It was reported that [REDACTED] returned fire with his service rifle. Agents were informed that Warfield was deceased. CPD officers cleared the apartment and secured the scene by placing yellow crime scene tape around the back parking lot. The BCI Crime Scene Unit (CSU) and members of the BCI Special Investigation Unit (SIU) accepted the request and responded to assist.

Special Agent (SA) Sarah Taylor arrived on scene and began to process at approximately 0632 hours. The scene was photographed as it was found upon her arrival. The Georges Creek Apartments were located to the west of Gender Road in Columbus. The residence at 6382 Georges Creek Drive was a two-story apartment with tan siding and had an entrance in the front and back side of the unit. The front door faced Georges Creek Drive (southeast) and the back door faced Amos Lynch Street (northwest). The front door of the apartment was found open, and a large amount of clothing was in disarray outside. A CPD cruiser was parked outside this door to ensure security of the scene. The back door was also found open, and the body of Warfield was covered with a white sheet on the back patio. The back door had excessive damage above and below the door latch, causing the front part of the door to bow out. The interior handle of the door was found to be in a locked position. A Leica BLK 360 scanner was used to further document the scene.

A parking lot area was located behind the apartment building on Amos Lynch Street. Three vehicles were parked to the northeast of the apartment. Behind a dark blue, 2012 Subaru Tribeca, bearing Ohio license plate: KHG4584, 12 Hornady .223 cartridge

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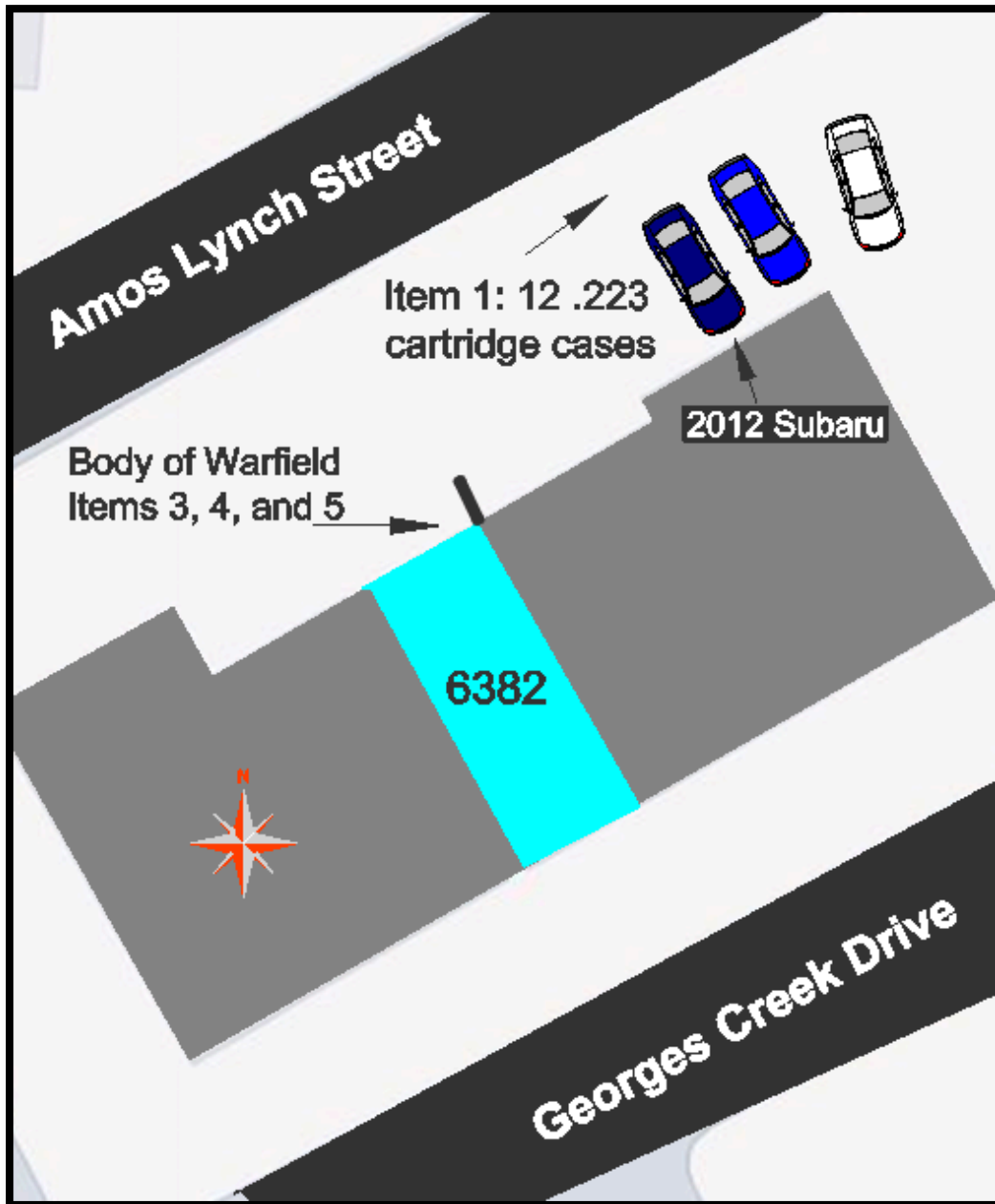
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cases were recovered from the roadway. The casings were photographed and collected as Item 1.



(Exterior of scene - Not to Scale)

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SA Taylor was informed that [REDACTED] service rifle was placed into CPD Cruiser [REDACTED]. CPD Cruiser [REDACTED] was parked on Georges Creek Drive next to Gender Road. On the front driver side seat and floor, SA Taylor located a rifle. The rifle was a Bravo Company Manufacturing, BCM4 rifle (serial number: [REDACTED]) with one Hornady .223 cartridge in the chamber and 17 cartridges in the seated magazine. The rifle, magazine, and cartridges were photographed and collected as Item 2.

On the back patio, next to the body of Warfield, a firearm covered in blood and two cartridge cases were observed on the ground. The firearm was a Taurus, TH40 S&W semi-automatic pistol (serial number: ACL505405) with one cartridge in the chamber and 12 cartridges in the magazine. The pistol, cartridges, and magazine were photographed and collected as Item 3. One cartridge case had a headstamp of, "FC 40 S&W" and was collected as Item 4. The second cartridge case had a headstamp of, "Blazer 40 S&W" and was collected as Item 5.

Multiple ballistic events (BE) were located on the exterior and interior of the apartment and were labeled with adhesive scales as BE 1.0 - 46.0 for documentation purposes. BE's 1.0 - 9.0 were located on the northeast side of the white fence, near the body of Warfield. The projectiles perforated the fence, and each hole was small in size. SA Taylor was able to identify and document some of the corresponding holes on the interior side of the fence (BE 1.1, 3.1, 4.1, 5.1, 7.1, 9.1).



(View of BE 1.0-9.0 with Warfield's body on opposite side)

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Agents observed ballistic events on the air conditioning units near the back patio area. A suspected bullet hole was located on the first unit and labeled as BE 10.0. A projectile perforated the first air conditioning unit and exited at BE 10.1 on the opposite side. The projectile continued into the second air conditioning unit at BE 10.2 and terminated inside of the unit at BE 10.3. SA Taylor removed the covering of the unit to capture photographs of BE 10.3. No projectile was recovered from this event.

A suspected bullet hole was located on the siding next to the back door. This hole was irregular in shape and labeled as BE 11.0. No projectile was recovered from this area. On the exterior side of the back door, SA Taylor observed multiple suspected bullet holes that were labeled as BE 12.0 - 18.0. BE's 12.0, 13.0, 14.0, 16.0, and 17.0 were generally oblong in shape and had a leading edge indicating the projectiles traveled from left to right, when viewing the back door from the roadway. The projectiles from these BE's perforated the door and exited at BE 12.1, 13.1, 14.1, 16.1, and 17.1. BE 15.0 was small and irregular in shape. A projectile had penetrated the door; however, no projectile was recovered from this area. BE 18.0 was an irregular hole in the door handle. A projectile had penetrated the handle, but no projectile was recovered. All of the characteristics of BE 11.0-18.0 were consistent with a general shot direction from outside of the apartment towards the inside. It appeared that projectiles continued through the door striking objects downrange to include a wooden kitchen cabinet (BE's 19.0-22.0), the refrigerator (BE's 23.0-29.0), areas around the kitchen sink (BE's 30.0-36.0 and 41.0), and the wall next to the refrigerator and laundry room door (BE's 37.0-40.0). Agents cut into the drywall near the sink in an attempt to recover projectiles. A suspected bullet fragment was recovered from this area as Item 7. No other projectiles were recovered from these areas.

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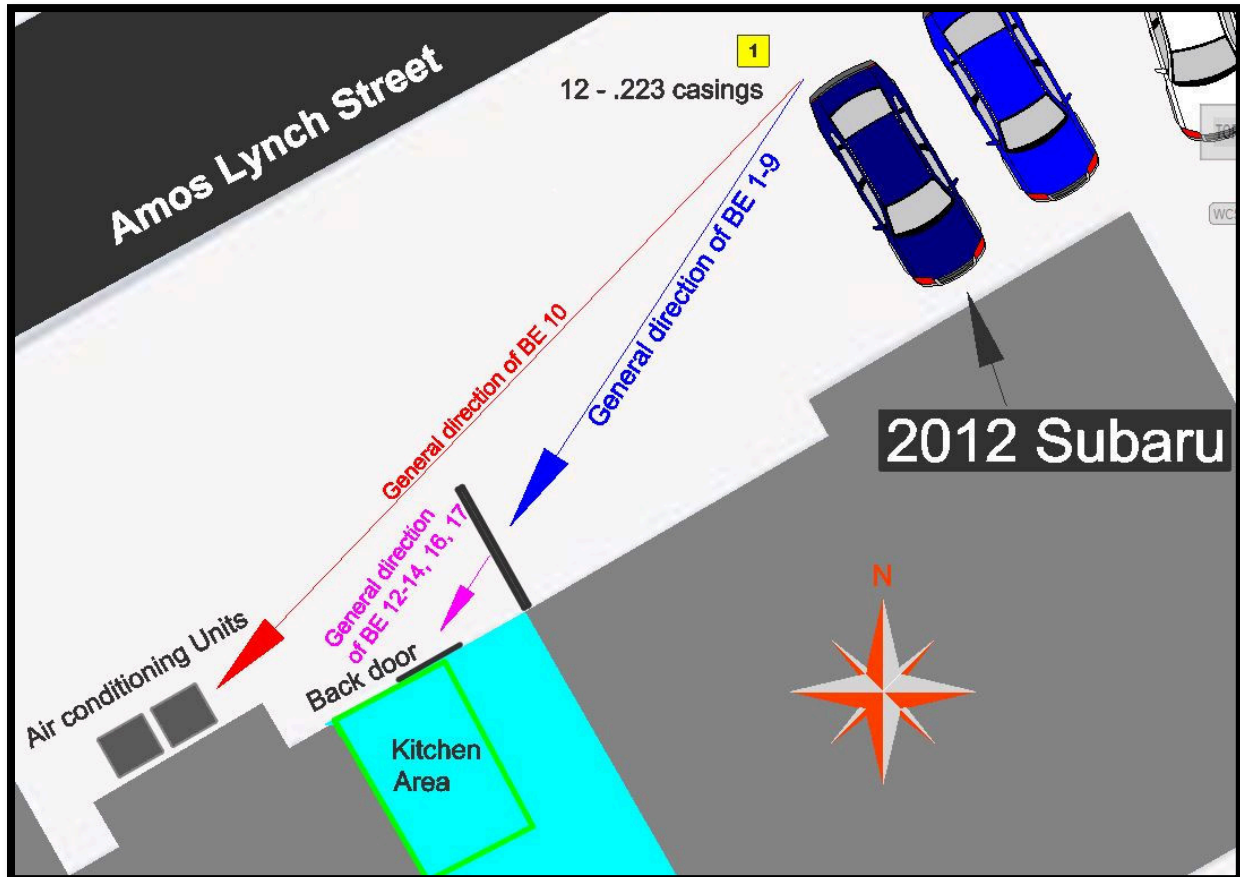


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(General shot direction from area of .223 casings)

Multiple ballistic events were located in the front door and siding of the residence. According to CPD and SIU, these holes were old and not related to the OICI. These holes were still photographed and labeled for documentation purposes as BE's 42.0 through 44.0. BE 42.0 and 43.0 were located in the siding, next to the front door of the unit. BE 44.0 was located in the bottom of the front door. A projectile had perforated the door and exited at BE 44.1. BE's 42.0 - 44.0 were consistent with a general shot direction from outside of the apartment towards the inside. Inside the living room, across from the front door, two holes were labeled as BE 45.0 and 46.0. Projectiles had perforated the wall and exited into the laundry room at BE's 45.1 and 46.1. No projectiles were recovered from these ballistic events.

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Agents were informed by SIU that there was a green handled kitchen knife that may have been involved in the original incident prior to CPD officers' arrival. A knife matching the description was collected from the kitchen sink as Item 6.

With assistance from Franklin County Coroner Investigator Milena Bartell, the body of Warfield was examined. Warfield was wearing a white tank top, red and gray boxers, and a pair of black socks. The shirt and boxers were soaked with blood. Medical equipment was observed on his body and his shirt appeared to have been cut. Warfield was on his back with his hands secured underneath him with a pair of handcuffs. Agents observed large wounds to his right hand and the back side of his right leg. Multiple suspected gunshot wounds were observed in his body. SA Taylor placed bags over Warfield's hands to preserve any potential evidence. At the direction of Investigator Bartell, Warfield was placed into a body bag and transported to the Franklin County Forensic Science Center for an autopsy. SA Taylor filled out a Postmortem Forensic Evidence Request while on scene and provided the form to Investigator Bartell.



(Body of Warfield)

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Multiple suspected spatter¹ and transfer² stains were observed on the back door of the residence. Photographs were taken with scales for documentation. A spatter stain on the door was labeled as Area A. Two swabs were used to collect a sample from this area and were labeled as Item 8. On the hinge side, in the door jamb area, there was no blood observed, which would indicate that the door was closed during the incident.



(Area A)

Numerous suspected bloodstains were located throughout the inside of the residence and were labeled as Area B through Area H for documentation purposes. Area B was an area of suspected blood on the exterior of the laundry room door. Area C was a transfer stain located on the wall inside of the laundry room.

In the living room area, SA Taylor observed broken glass tables as well as legs of a suspected entertainment stand. Items were scattered throughout the room and a television and XBOX were on the floor. Area D was a transfer stain located on the wall

¹ A spatter stain is a bloodstain resulting from an airborne blood drop created when external force is applied to liquid blood.

² A transfer stain is a bloodstain resulting from contact between a blood-bearing surface and another surface.

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of the living room, near a broken glass table. Area E was a transfer stain on the XBOX that was on the floor next to the broken glass table. Area F was a transfer stain located on the exterior side of the front door. Areas G and H were transfer stains located on the walls of the stairway leading to the second floor. Swabs were used to collect individual samples from Area B through Area H as Items 9-15.

No additional items of evidentiary value were collected from Scene 1. Examination of the scene was completed at approximately 1121 hours. Items #1-15 were released to Crime Scene Technician (CST) Amy Gill on scene.

Evidence Disposition

On May 16, 2024, at approximately 1247 hours, CST Gill placed Items 1-15 into the BCI CSU temporary evidence locker located in London.

On May 17, 2024, SA Taylor attended the autopsy of Warfield at the Franklin County Forensic Science Center.

At approximately 1348 hours, SA Taylor removed Items 1-15 from the CSU temporary evidence locker. SA Taylor submitted Items 1-5 to BCI South Evidence Submission at approximately 1414 hours. At approximately 1422 hours, SA Taylor secured Items 6-15 in BCI Temporary Evidence Locker 3 to later be submitted into the BCI evidence vault.

Autopsy Evidence

On May 22, 2024, SA Taylor reported to the Franklin County Forensic Science Center to collect evidence obtained from Warfield's autopsy. SA Taylor obtained the following items of evidence:

Item	Description
1	White tank top, red underwear, gray underwear, 2 black socks.
2	DNA card, fingerprints, fingernail and scrapings kit.
3	Photographs.
4	Officer handcuffs
5	Two handbags
6	Five projectile fragments.

On May 23, 2024, after packaging and documenting the evidence, SA Taylor secured Items 1-6 in the BCI temporary evidence locker to later be submitted into the BCI evidence vault.

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